Amendments of the Specification

At page 3, second full paragraph:

An invention disclosed in claim 3 is characterized in that a rotating structure is composed of the net body, a first ring member (27, 227) supporting one of the two end portions of the net body located upstream side of the particulate flow, a second ring member (28, [~~229~~] **228**) supporting another of the two end portions of the net body located downstream side of the particulate flow, and multiple rods (29, 229) connecting the first ring member and the second ring member, and the whole rotating structure rotates along with the net body.

At page 3, fifth full paragraph:

An invention disclosed in claim 6 is an particulate sifter in accordance with claim 5 characterized in that the electric motor (245M) is provided on the outer surface of the cover member (225), the supporting part is realized as the driving shaft ([~~245a~~] **245e**) of the electric motor, the driving shaft ([~~245a~~] **245e**) and the frame (228a) are provided with respective locking parts (253, 252), and said electric motor (245M) rotates the net body (226) by lock function of the locking parts.

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In the particulate sifter 4 of the first embodiment descried above, the first ring member 27 of the net body 26 is supported and rotated by rollers [~~45b~~] **45** and [~~46b~~] **46** with the rollers [~~45b~~] **45** being rotated by the respective

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electric motors 45M. On the contrary, in a particulate sifter 204 of the third embodiment, location of an electric motor 245M is different from that of the electric motors 45M, and a second ring member 228 located at the downstream of a net body [~~126~~] **226** is supported and rotated by the electric motor 245M. Furthermore, the rollers 45, 46 are replaced by a supporting member 245 shown in Fig. 16 and Fig. 17. This supporting member 245 is fitted inside a first ring member 227.

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More specifically as shown in Fig.10 to Fig.18, the particulate sifter 204 has an opening 220e located at one end of a casing 220 which is on the downstream side of the flow of particulates and an access door 225 to open and close the opening 220e. The electric motor 245M is fixed on the outer side of the access door 225. A net body 226 and a driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e** are engaged together. The particulate sifter 204 has a center member 251 which is joined to a frame 228a of the second ring member 228 and has a shaft hole 228b at its center and is located at the center of the second ring member 228, one or more pin(s) 252 projecting from the back side of the center member 251 in the back direction. The particulate sifter 204 also has one or more bar(s) 253 extended from the outer circumference of one end portion of the driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e**, and a dish-like concave 256 which has an opening at its center and engages with the end portion of the driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e**. The short cylindrical supporting member 245 is a plate substance having a shape of circle as shown in Fig. 16 and Fig. 17 and has continuous two planes of horizontal part 245a and inclining part 245b. The inclining part 245b inclines in a manner that the diameter becomes smaller toward the forward. A part of the outer circumference of the supporting member 245 is fixed to the inner circumference of a circular through-hole 250 in a vertical wall 249. The inclining part 245b is provided in order that the inner circumference of the first ring member 227 can be easily fitted to the outer circumference of the supporting member 245.

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[~~As shown in Fig. 18, the~~] **The** first ring member 227 is supported by the supporting member 245 and rotates when the electric motor 245M operates in an operational status of the particulate sifter 204. Additionally, the bars 253 are engaged with the pins 252 as shown in arrows, **of Fig. 18,** because the bars 253 of the driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e** are rotated with the driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e** fitted in the concave 256 as the access door 225 is closed. This structure enables the

Amendments of the Specification *(cont'd)*

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integral rotation of the pins 252 and the bars 253 caused by the electric motor 245M and thus also enables the rotation of the net body 226. In other words, when the electric motor 245M begins to rotate after the access door 225 is closed, the pins 252 and the bars 253 are engaged and the net body 226 is rotated by the electric motor 245M. On the contrary, when the access door 225 is opened, the driving shaft [~~245a~~] **245e** is detached from the net body 226, as the driving [~~245a~~] **245e** is detached from the concave 256 and the pins 252 are detached from the bars 253. Furthermore, one or more access door(s) 260, 262 are provided on the sieve casing 220. The sieve casing 220 can be closed and opened by locking and unlocking the access doors 260 and 262 with corresponding knobs 264 and 266. Knobs 225f are fixed on the outer surface of the access door 225. A filtering system, which is composed of a filter 270 and a filter controlling system 280, 285, is provided at the upper portion of an influx casing 210. The filter 270 is located inside and upper portion of the sieve casing 220 and is made of a retainer and a filter fabric covering the retainer. The filter controlling system 280, 285 controls separation of particulates and air by the filter 270 and back washing of the filter 270. As for the structure of the filtering system, see Japanese Patent No. 2634042, Japanese Patent Laid-Open Gazette No. 2000-157815, Japanese Patent Laid-Open Gazette No. 2001-62225. Other components are similar to those of the first embodiment. Corresponding components are numbered with 200 added to those of the first embodiment, and detailed explanation is omitted. This embodiment has similar effects as the first embodiment.

Amendments of the Specification *(cont'd)*

At page 18, first full paragraph:

(1) In the first to third embodiments described above, the sieve 21, 121 or 221 is rotated forcibly by respective motor 45M, **145M** or 245M as driving sources. However, the supporting rollers 45 or 145 may be realized to rotate freely by omitting the driving source 45M or 145M in the first or second embodiment. In such a structure, the sieve 21 or 121 is rotated by the agitation of the particulate-air mixture by the rotating blades 23 **or 123** [,] (by the friction between the net body **26 or** 126 and the particulates agitated by the rotating blades **23 or** 123). This embodiment, therefore, has similar effects as the first or second embodiment, and also has a further effect of a cost-reduction due to the reduction of parts. The driving source 245M may be omitted and the supporting structure including the center member 251 may

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(2) In the first to third embodiments described above, the second ring member 28, 128 or 228 of the sieve 21, 121 or 221 is supported rotatably by the access door 25, 125 or 225 having the supporting shaft 25e, 125e or [~~245a~~] **the driving shaft 245e**. In a modified embodiment, the second ring member 28, 128 or 228 may be supported rotatably from the sieve casing 20, 120 or 220.

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(3) In the first to third embodiments described above, the second ring member 28, 128 or 228 is supported by inserting the supporting shaft 25e, 125e or [~~245a~~] **the driving shaft 245e** into the shaft hole 28b, 128b or 251. However, the invention is not limited to such a structure. For example, the second ring member 28, 128 or 228 may be supported rotatably by rollers located around the outer circumference of the second ring member 28, 128 or 228.